



Speaking of Books...

Do you enjoy talking about the books you've read? Do you like recommending books to other people? Would you like some suggestions on what to read next? Come to the library's adult book discussion group. We promise good books, good company, and homemade snacks. We meet the third Wednesday of each month at 1:00 PM. in the library's community room. Here are the books that the group has chosen to discuss for the first half of 2009. For more information, pick up a flyer at either library, or call 455-6310.

January 21 – *A Walk in the Woods: Rediscovering America on the Appalachian Trail* by Bill Bryson

February 18 – *Them* by Nathan McCall – We will meet at the Legacy Museum, 403 Monroe Street, this month.

March 18 – *The Rope Walk* by Carrie Brown – this year's **Lynchburg Reads** selection!

April 15 – Celebrate National Poetry Month by bringing in your favorite poems to share with the group.

May 20 – *Reading Lolita in Tehran* by Azar Nafisi

June 17 – *The Namesake* by Jhumpa Lahiri



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Newsletter

VOLUME 8 • NUMBER 4

DECEMBER 2008/JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2009

www.lyncburgva.gov/publiclibrary



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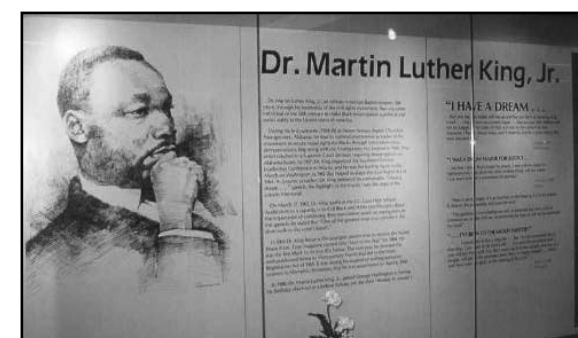
Halloween @ Your Library

On a beautiful Halloween morning the library was visited by more than 200 magical creatures such as fairies, princesses, superheroes, bees and butterflies and even a skunk. Newborns carried by parents, toddlers who toddled and preschoolers who pranced their way through the rows of books made an enchanting scene. Donned in their favorite make

believe characters the children paraded throughout the library following the Grand Marshall, children's librarian Ann Lawson. They also enjoyed a safe daytime environment to celebrate Halloween as they stopped in different departments to show off their costumes and chant "Trick or Treat." Many staff members dressed in costume to keep the theme authentic as they handed out candy and non-candy treats. Then as quickly as they came, all were gone when the clock struck noon, proof that even magical creatures need their naps. Check out some more pictures on our website.

Martin Luther King Exhibit Opening *Virginia Voting Rights: Then and Now*

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Lynchburg Community Council (MLKLCC) and the Lynchburg League of Women Voters are elated to announce the opening of their new exhibit, *Virginia Voting Rights: Then and Now*. The exhibit is presented as a time line of voting privileges to some and their systematic denial to others in the Commonwealth of Virginia.



Adisa Muse, Director, Virginia Voter Restoration Project, American Civil Liberties Union of Virginia was the Keynote Speaker at the Nov. 20 opening program. He addressed the urgent need to restore voting rights to ex-offenders who have served their time and met all legal requirements to be granted the right to vote. Virginia is one of only two states which do not routinely restore voting rights to ex-offenders. The exhibit will be on display through 2009.

One of the responsibilities of the MLKLCC is to maintain and develop exhibits for the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Human Rights. The MLKLCC is committed to keeping Dr. King's dream alive by continuously recognizing his legacy and the work of local and national civil rights advocates. League of Women Voters groups across the State are studying the issue of the restoration of voting rights.

What's Cookin'?



We have had a few responses to our cookbook question in the last newsletter. Some of our patrons' favorites are:

- Food to Die For by Jessica Ward
Marzipan Cake
- Garlic and Sapphires by Ruth Reichl
- Tender at the Bone by Ruth Reichl
- Arabesque by Claudia Roden
- Jan Karon's Mitford Cookbook and Kitchen Reader
Cynthia's Glazed Rosemary Onions
Cynthia's Salad with Oranges and Scallions
Puny's Cornbread
Esther's Orange Marmalade Cake
- Being Dead Is No Excuse : The Official Southern Ladies Guide to Hosting the Perfect Funeral by Gayden Metcalfe
Just One More PC [Pimento Cheese]
- Cooking with My Sisters : One Hundred Years of Family Recipes from Bari to Big Stone Gap by Adriana Trigiani
- Barefoot Contessa Parties! : Ideas and Recipes for Easy Parties that Are Really Fun by Ina Garten
- Lidia's Family Table by Lidia Bastianich
- Hidden Kitchens : Stories, Recipes, and More from NPR's The Kitchen Sisters by Nikki Silva
- Chocolate from the Cake Mix Doctor by Anne Bryn
Lemon Lover's White Chocolate Cake

Friends Board News



A portion of the income from the Endowment Fund will be used to support a variety of library functions. Responding to staff suggestions, the Board voted to fund \$1,000 for new books requested through a new "Suggestion Box" initiative the library will begin after January 1, \$2,000 for new tables and chairs for use by the many daily laptop users and \$2,000 to help staff the I-VAN Summer Outreach program. Another \$3,000 was approved for two projects involving public art for the library. This is the first distribution of income since the 2006 anniversary year Endowment Fund Campaign raised about \$125,000.

E-mail notification @ Your Library



Have you signed up for e-mail notification for your reserves and overdues? In addition to the regular notices, our newest feature is pre-overdue notices. Three days before your items are due you will receive a courtesy reminder that the items will be due soon. This feature is only available to patrons who are set to receive e-mail notification. If you are interested in trying e-mail notices, just ask a circulation staff member to set you up for it the next time you check out. It's fast and easy. If you decide you don't like it, you can always switch back to the way you receive notices now. Please remember to notify us if your e-mail address changes.

Ona Turner Dowdy, Circulation Supervisor

Winter/Spring Storytime Schedule

Registration will begin Monday, January 12.
Storytimes will begin Monday, January 26.



Please visit our Website or
call 455-6320 for more information.



Gates Foundation Technical Support @ Your Library

The Gates Foundation is once again providing funding to public libraries for technology. Friends board member Mary Guthrow appeared before City Council at their November 25 meeting, to thank them for the unqualified support they and the city administration have given the library since public use PCs began being offered in 2001. Following is a slightly edited version of her remarks:



Two weeks ago I went with Library Director Lynn Dodge and library Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator, Melody Carlton to a two-day conference in Greensboro NC. The conference, called *Turning the Page*, focused on advocacy for public libraries in the 21st century and was sponsored by and entirely paid for by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The 250 participants were professional staff and community supporters from all the public libraries in Virginia and North Carolina who will receive Gates Foundation grants over the next two years to help them expand public access to computers.

In 2001 the Lynchburg Public Library received a \$75,000 grant from the Gates Foundation, providing eight public use computers and an 11-seat Gates Computer Lab. Counting two more computers available for word processing only, we now have 21 public use computers at the main library, plus 4 more at the branch library here in City Hall. A second Gates grant of \$13,000 will soon allow us to replace the four branch library computers and to add three more computers and a child's Early Learning Station downtown.

The Library's public access computers are in constant use by our citizens, many of whom do not have computers or Internet access at home. Last year there were 65,000 user sessions. One of many things I learned at the Greensboro conference is how *fortunate* the Lynchburg Public Library is to have technical support for our public access computers from the City's IT staff. Many of the community libraries represented in Greensboro have no such support, so I wanted to come in person to say thank you to the City for this critical component in our effort to make the benefits of the information age available to more of our citizens. Computer access has become increasingly important when, for example, many companies now accept ONLY online job applications or when senior citizens want to research Medicare plans or when students need to apply online for scholarships to help them pay for further education.

I know that the mayor spent many hours last spring reading to children at three inner city neighborhood centers as part of the Library's I-VAN Outreach program. I want to encourage all of our Council members and fellow citizens to visit both library locations often. If it has been awhile since you have been inside a public library, you will discover that libraries have changed a LOT. They are still full of wonderful books and periodicals and they still offer story hours for new generations, but today there are many new kinds of resources and free enrichment programs available for Lynchburgers of all ages. So please, come check us out, and thank you for supporting this important cultural institution.

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Coming Up

Mark your calendar now for the spring. We will have more information in future newsletters.

- March 16 – Friends Benefit Dinner with Carrie Brown at Sweet Briar College
- March 23 – Lynchburg Reads presents Carrie Brown, author of *The Rope Walk* at Randolph College
- April 30 – Sharon Draper, award-winning author, educator, speaker, poet, and National Teacher of the Year will speak at the library.

Inclement Weather Reminder @Your Library

Don't sweat the fines if we have inclement weather. When Lynchburg City Schools are closed due to the weather, the library does not charge fines. The library makes every attempt to maintain regular hours, but weather conditions may warrant opening later or closing earlier. Please call 434-455-6300 and Press 1 for information concerning library hours. Any time it is necessary to alter library hours, fines are waived for the day. The exterior drops are always open when we are closed, so in the event that you make it to the library when it is closed, you may still return materials. Also, if you have Internet access, you may renew materials online, as long as they are not reserved for another patron, already overdue, or have not been renewed previously. Materials renew for one week. Videos and DVDs are not renewable. Go the library's web page at www.lyncburgva.gov/publiclibrary and click on "Library Catalog." Have a safe Winter, and remember, Spring arrives on March 20!

Upcoming Friends of the Library Board Meetings			
VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME			
January 13	4:00 p.m.	Community Room	
March 10	4:00 p.m.	Community Room	

MAIN LIBRARY
2315 Memorial Ave.
Lynchburg, VA 24501

Circulation, Renewals,
Returns, Library Cards
455-6300

Reference and
Information
455-6310

Youth Services
455-6320

Administration and
Technical Services
455-6330

Volunteer Program
455-6330

LIBRARY HOURS
Main

Mon., Wed., Fri., Sat.
9:30 AM-5:30 PM
Tues., Thurs.
9:30 AM-9:00 PM

Downtown Branch

Mon.- Fri.
9:30 AM-5:30 PM

DOWNTOWN BRANCH
AND LAW LIBRARY

900 Church Street
Lynchburg, VA 24504
455-3820

CLOSED

Tuesday, December 23
at 5:30 PM

Wednesday, Thursday,
December 24 & 25

Thursday, January 1
New Year's Day

Monday, January 19
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Monday, February 16
President's Day

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